

REMARKS

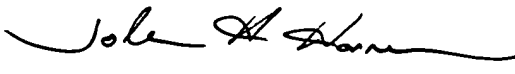
This Preliminary Amendment is being filed to identify this application as a continuation of copending U.S. Patent Application No. 09/161,812, filed on September 28, 1998, in which a Notice of Allowance was mailed on December 12, 2004, and the issue fee is being submitted herewith concurrently.

Upon entry of this Preliminary Amendment, claims 1-21 have been canceled. Claim 22 is newly added. Claim 22 is pending in the application. No new matter is believed to be introduced. Entry of this Preliminary Amendment and examination on the merits are respectfully requested.

A check for \$770.00 is attached hereto to cover the filing fees of this application. The Commissioner is also authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-4503, Order No. 1232-4473US1.

Respectfully submitted,
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